Pollution at Madras Coast

2463. SHRI PASUMPON THA. KIRUTTINAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coast Guard ships on pollution control mission to Madras Coast have located scattered oil spill during the recent months;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken to prevent pollution thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. An oil slick was noticed during routine surveillance by the Coast Guard off the Madras coast on 13th November, 1995. The area of the spill was 4 miles by 3 miles and about 1.5 miles south east of Elliot Beach at Madras. As reported by the Coast Guard, this oil slick is due to Bilge discharge oil by a ship transiting off Madras. Pollution response team from Madras was deployed to detect the source and neutralise the slick immediately. Dispersants were also spread from CG Dornier to neutralise the slick. Coast Guard ship Avviyyar with pollution response equipment and scientists of Central Electro Chemical Research Institute, Karaikudi, Tamil Nadu sailed from Madras on 14th November, 1995 to collect data. Residual slick neutralisation and clean up was also taken up.

Foreign Investment in Petroleum Sector

2464. SHRI SATISH AGARWAL:
SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have resorted to disinvestment of shares/funds as a means of financing revenues deficit instead of using proceeds for restructuring/ development of the public sector units under the control of Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor and whether Government of India have cut policy in this regard; and

(c) what is the present position with regard to the total foreign investment received (country-wise), utilised in oil sector and balance available till 30th November, 1995 for the last two years, year-wise indicating current projects as "joint ventures" in oil and natural gas production, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b): Disinvestment means sale of Government equity shares in Public Sector Undertakings and its proceeds accrue to the Consolidated Fund of India as capital receipts. Public Sector Undertakings are given budgetary support, on merit, for their re-structuring/development. However, such Undertakings under Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, at present have adequate internal and extra-budgetary resources to meet their requirements for re-structuring/ development.

(c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

World Bank Aid for Ahmedabad-Vadodara Expressway NEI Project

2465. SHRIMATI ANANDIBEN JETHABHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether work of ROB inthe World Bank aided Ahmedabad-Vadodara Expressway NEI project started in 1987 is in the final stage of its completion;

(b) whether Government of Gujarat has intimated Rs. 374.19 crores as the revised estimate of the project against the origional estimate; and